Committee has ceased to be relevant in the present context. It has been decided that like other financial organisations, funding and financing of ships should also be handled by the Ministry of Finance through an appropriate designated financial institution. A Working Group has been set up to look into the modalities of transferring this work from Shipping Development Fund Committee to the new designated institution which is proposed to be set up under the Companies Act by the Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI) as promotor along with other financial institutions.

(b) Details are given at Annexure I, II, III and IV. [*See* Appendix CXXXIX, Annexure No. 22, 23, 24 and 25].

(c) Steps taken by Shipping Development Fund Committee to recover the dues from defaulting shipping companies include issuance of notices to all defaulting shipping companies to repay the defaulted amounts and foreclosure of mortgages against the ships of companies and getting them sold through courts and adjusting the sale proceeds towards the defaulted amounts. Further steps proposed by Government for recovering outstanding dues from defaulting companies, include certain legislative measures for speedier and effective recoveries

Need of helicopter services in various sectors

423. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a growing need for helicopter services in various sectors like petroleum sector, intra-city transport etc.;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that several projects involving acquisition of helicopters in the State/private sector have been delayed because of the insistence on the part of the Helicopter Corporation of India that a no-objection certificate be obtained from it for such acquisition;

(d) whether it is mandatory to obtain approval of the Helicopter Corporation of India for acquiring helicopters; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Based on the projections of Oil & Natural Gas Commission of their workload till the end of the 7th Plan period (1989-90), the requirements of medium helicopters is not likely to increase beyond 25 during the period 1987—90, while the requirements of small helicopters for pipeline support is expected to increase from 9 to 15 by 1990. The requirements of the Non-Oil Sector including intra-city transport are at present estimated at 17 medium helicopters.

(c) to (e) It is at present not mandatory for State Governments or the private sector to obtain 'No objection certificates from the Helicopter Corporation of India Ltd. before acquiring helicopters.

Acquisition of Helicopters by the Holicopter Corporation of India

424. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Helicopter Corporation of India has decided to acquire only medium-sized helicopters from the U. K. and France.

(b) if so, what are their plans in regard to the acquiring of big and small sized helicopters; and

(c) whether the H.C.I. is being allowed to lease helicopters from foreign manufacturers and, if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.